

Recycling and Refuse Management Committee

Minutes from 3/5/09 meeting

Present: Meg Vickery, Chair; Susan Waite, DPW Liaison; Marianne Lorenzelli; Lucy McMurrer; Sterling Bush; John Root; Greg Keochakian.

February minutes were approved without changes.

Membership

Committee contact information was distributed. Adri Lester has resigned. A letter of thanks will be written and brought to the next meeting. Potential members to take her place need to be contacted (a Smith College contact? People from ARHS?). Letter of thanks to Clare Bertrand was signed by all present. Susan asked members to please complete the on-line meeting effectiveness survey ASAP.

Transfer Station Update

Sterling said 200 egg cartons collected at Transfer Station have been reused and she's currently looking for other farms to take more cartons. RRMC members suggested Jeremy Plotkin of Simple Gifts Farm and Brookfield Farm. Sterling also asked to whom checks should be made out for the bookshed project. The Friends of the Jones Library have pledged \$100. Susan will ask Guilford and let her know.

Board of Health Waste Hauling Regulations Update

Susan will talk to Guilford about the next steps and the process in this matter. We need to find out original intent of regulations – was it supposed to be only residential or commercial too? Greg, Marianne, and Susan have a proposal with changes. Wording of that may need to be even stronger.

Styrofoam Ban

John spoke with Aaron Hayden about this. He's supportive of it and wants to be kept informed. Perhaps sending him meeting minutes and by-law draft? Susan may also get in touch with the creator of the Seattle Styrofoam ban when she's out there next month. Meg suggested Portobello might be a good business to be aware of as we go further into this endeavor because they're already doing a lot of green packaging.

School Composting

Lucy will email to Susan the letter to Crocker Farm principal Mike Morris. Paul Bocko (Hampshire College contact who worked on ARMS greenhouse project) and Susan spoke about the sustainability of composting at Crocker Farm. Perhaps a formal partnership with Hampshire can be created to help this last? Susan will explore this further.

Earth Day

Should the committee do something to commemorate this day or not, Susan asked. Maybe a scaled back scavenger hunt (with 10 businesses), a downtown booth with Dave Lovett ("Dr. Worm") and selling composters (Sterling or Susan would have to be there the whole time)? Susan will contact Arbor Day folks & the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. Lucy is happy to help Susan contact businesses re: scavenger hunt. Contacting the Girl Scouts or the Boy Scouts for help was suggested. Susan will let Sterling know if she needs help in getting space on the Strong House or the Jones Library lawn. Greg will check on coupons to the Hospice thrift shop for prizes for the scavenger hunt. There will also be an Earth Day insert in the Daily Hampshire Gazette.

Recycling Coordinator's Report

SUSAN: Do you want to add something into this?

Next committee meeting scheduled for *the first Thursday of April*, the 2nd at 4:30.

Meeting adjourned 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy McMurrer